

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 9-16 are now pending in the application. Claims 2-8 have been withdrawn from consideration and are canceled herein, without prejudice. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 AND UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8-11 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by DeHart (U.S. Pat. No. 4,573,690). Claims 1 and 9-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Polzin (U.S. Pat. No. 3,348,430) in view of DeHart (U.S. Pat. No. 4,573,690). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Each of these rejections is based upon the assertion that "DeHart discloses a wall and shaft assembly comprising a shaft 10 having a seal area 14 with a plurality of bumps 44 and a seal 20." This assertion, however, is incorrect. The projections identified by reference number 44 of DeHart are present on a tool 42 for forming indentations 28 on the shaft. In fact, the only bumps disclosed on the shaft of DeHart at all are raised areas or lips of displaced metal 60 resulting from the process of forming the indentations. These raised lips 60 are removed as part of the manufacturing process as illustrated in Figure 10. Thus, these raised lips are not present in operation as seen in the remainder of the drawing figures. Polzin, like DeHart, also lacks any disclosure or suggestion of the bumps as defined by Applicants' invention. Consequently, Applicants respectfully assert that each of the currently pending claims are patentable over DeHart and Polzin, either singly or in combination.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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